

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraphs on page 5, line 18 to page 6, line 2, with the following amended paragraphs:

The inventors have ~~got an idea~~ determined that the surface of each aluminum particle may be covered with a coat of an aqueous solution having poor reactivity ~~with an aqueous solution,~~ while not damaging the designability of a film and having the a property of preventing the generation of hydrogen gas or the like during storage in order to attain the aforementioned ~~objects, made~~ of the present invention. Thus, experiments were made ~~of~~ covering the surfaces of aluminum particles with coats of comprising various compositions and studying the coated particles. ~~pursued deep studies.~~

As a result of these studies, ~~they have~~ it has been found that the surface of each aluminum particle may be covered with a molybdenum coat comprising a molybdenum oxide and/or a molybdenum hydrate and the surface of the molybdenum coat may be covered with a silica coat comprising amorphous silica and/or a coat obtained from a silane coupling agent. It has also been ~~They have also~~ found that a sufficient effect is attained without forming the molybdenum coat on the surface of each aluminum particle, when the silica coat and the coat obtained from the silane coupling agent are formed together.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 3-8 with the following amended paragraph:

~~Further, the inventors have also pursued deep studies as to what kind of~~ The present invention has also studied the particular manufacturing method ~~is to be preferably to be~~ employed in order to cover the surface of each aluminum particle with a molybdenum coat, a silica coat or a coat prepared from a silane coupling agent. As a result of these studies, ~~they have~~ it has been found that the ~~said~~ aluminum pigment can be efficiently manufactured by employing a the specific manufacturing method, ~~to complete~~ of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 18-21, with the following amended paragraph:

The content of molybdenum is preferably in the range of 0.01 to 5 parts by mass with respect to 100 parts by mass of the aluminum particles if the inventive aluminum pigment ~~has~~ contains the molybdenum coat, ~~while~~ whereas the content of silicon is preferably in the range of 1 to 20 parts by mass regardless of presence/absence of the molybdenum coat.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, line 27 to page 7, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

A The method of manufacturing an aluminum pigment according to the present invention comprises the steps of forming a molybdenum coat comprising a molybdenum oxide and/or a molybdenum hydrate on the surface of each aluminum particle by stirring a dispersive solution containing aluminum particles and a molybdenum compound and forming a silica coat comprising amorphous silica and/or a coat prepared from a silane coupling agent on the surface

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of the molybdenum coat of each aluminum particle by adjusting the pH ~~of a~~ of the dispersive solution containing the aluminum particles each having the molybdenum coat, an organic silicon compound and/or the silane coupling agent and a hydrolytic catalyst thereby hydrolyzing the organic silicon compound and/or the silane coupling agent.